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THE BULWER NOVELS. Harper & Brothers.

This enterprising house has just undertaken a library edition, well printed and chastely bound, of the works of this prince of novelists. Few gentlemen of taste will consider their library complete without this edition of the works of an author who has so truly reflected the inside life of elegant society. His characters have all so strong a resemblance to real life, that there is no mistaking the intimate acquaintance of the man with his subject. He paints us the true picture of high life, with its virtues and its vices brought to the surface. But in doing it he is careful not to prejudice the poor against the rich, but rather to excite in them an ambition to reach the higher walk of life through perseverance and enterprise. "My Novel," and the "Caxtons," first and second volumes, are the first of the edition published. Their cheapness will recommend them to the general public.

ODD PEOPLE: Or a Description of Singular Races of Men. By Capt. Mayne Reid. Harper & Brothers, New York.

The very name of Mr. Reid suggests adventures of the most miraculous kind, such as send a thrill of delight to the hearts of the young, who clamor for his books, as politicians do for place and power. He knows what young people want, and gives it to them in a manner so pleasant and entertaining as to create a healthy desire for more. The present work is a proof of his diligence. In it will be found a series of short accounts of strange races found in different parts of the world, and written in a style so pleasant and entertaining that one hardly knows whether he is reading facts or fiction. The Bosjesmen, or Bushmen; the Amazonian Indians; the Water-dwellers; the Esquimaux; the Moondancers; the Centaurs; the Feegees, or man eaters; the Tongans; the Turcomans; the Dirt Eaters; the Comanches; the Patagonian Giants; the Fuegian Dwarfs, and other races are minutely described.

THE LAKE REGIONS OF CENTRAL AFRICA. A Picture of Exploration by Richard F. Burton. Harper & Brothers, New York.

The reading world is already well acquainted with the works of this persevering and entertaining traveller, whose discoveries have done so much to shed light upon races of men of whose existence we had but an imperfect knowledge. Of the value of his works Europe and America have already shown a just appreciation. Coupled with great energy, an active and grasping mind, is a power to describe scenery and paint man in colors so fresh and natural, that there is no mistaking them. The volume before us is rich of that information the philanthropist and the statesman have long needed, respecting the races inhabiting Central Africa. Captain Burton's power of acquiring languages afforded him rare opportunity for cultivating a nearer acquaintance with these strange people. We can promise the reader of this book a more fascinating and valuable narrative than can be found in any work of fiction, however highly worked up. They will become acquainted with races of men whose strange manners and customs form a deeply interesting study.

MISS GILBERT'S CAREER: An American Story. By Dr. J. G. Holland. Charles Scribner, New York.

Doctor Holland has been well praised by the press, especially of New England. As the author of "The Titcomb Letters," he is well known to the American reader, and anything we could say of him would not affect his literary reputation, pro or con. What literary reputation he has won is the result of a graceful pen, employed in the light and fanciful walks of ephemeral literature. The present work, cannot truly be said to assume the form of a novel, but rather a series of

sketches, illustrative of life in a New England village. The great merit of these sketches is found in the faithful drawing of the characters, and the delicate coloring of scenery. The moral of the story, which flows on with but little to disturb its smooth surface, is found in the force with which the writer urges the value of self denial, and the grandeur of social success when founded on genuine worth, instead of empty show and pretension. The story is, perhaps, a little too rank of the pill-box of Doctor Gilbert, but the picture will be readily recognized by all who have spent a day in a New England village. The characters of Miss Gilbert and Miss Hammel are delicately drawn, but do not evince any great depth of conception. The character of Arthur Blague, which figures most prominently in the story, is admirably drawn. His introduction to old Rugles, the employer, and his first experience in the factory, are exceedingly clever delineations. Nor should we forget Cheek — Cheek the quaint, mirth-provoking, mischievous comedian of the story, whose slang is of the true New England type. Quick-witted and full of energy, Cheek rises by degrees, from the very foot of the ladder in a filthy factory, to be superintendent of a railroad. Such a book cannot fail to secure a large number of readers, wherever life in a quiet New England village interests.

HANDBOOK OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE, designed for popular reading, and as a text-book for schools and colleges, by Anne C. Lynch Botta. Derby & Jackson, New York.

Such a work has been a desideratum for a long time. Our reading people need a finger-post to direct them to a broader field of literature than they are familiar with. Mrs. Botta has performed her task, and not an easy one, in a very praiseworthy manner. The book contains biographical notices of authors, mention of works, accompanied with concise critical summaries, belonging to all the nations, past and present, that possess a literature, the Hebrews, Phoenicians, Hindoos, Persians, Chinese, Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Arabians, Italians, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Germans, Dutch, English, and the Americans. The work is intended to suggest study, and not to exhaust the subject, as some might imagine; it should be in the possession of every family in which there is a person fond of reading.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE, for November is out, and completes the twenty-first volume. None of our periodicals has so well sustained its character for the instructive and entertaining character of its contents. The present number opens with an entertaining paper on Captain John Smith and his adventures. A Summer in New England, gives some quaint pictures of the inhabitants of New Bedford and its vicinity. A paper on "Pearls and Gems," will be found interesting for its account of the manner in which gems are procured. All these articles are illustrated. Mr. Fitzjames O'Brien contributes an exquisite poem, "The Fallen Star," and the editor's department is replete with good things.

In answer to several inquiries, and to remove any misconception in the minds of our friends, we have to state that there is no connection whatever between our periodical, *The Crayon*, and the *Crayon Art Gallery*, of which Mr. Nichols is proprietor, except that of our up-town office, where, by an arrangement with Mr. Nichols, messages and subscriptions for the *CRAYON* may be left by those who find it convenient to do so. In selecting the title "*Crayon*," for his gallery, Mr. Nichols has simply exercised the common right of appropriating that which he considers to be the most eligible one in the language to mark his speciality.